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The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations H-305, the Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4611

March 31, 2023

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

BANKING MEMBER, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth HOB Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for "Enhancing Safety and Security at Northern Virginia Airports and Associated Metro Stations" in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is George Mason University, located at 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA, 22030. The funding would be used for the project below.

Project: Enhancing Safety and Security at Northern Virginia Airports and Associated Metro Stations

Recipient: George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA, 22030

Amount: \$295,990

Justification: Through this project George Mason University's Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy (CEBCP) will develop evidence-based prevention measures at Reagan and Dulles airport metro stations to increase safety at both those stations and their connected airports. The CEBCP will use its expertise to understand the nature of crime and disorder problems at entry points to the airport (like associated Metro stations) and how those points of entry can be best secured, while at the same time improving customer satisfaction, confidence, and security when using these transportation hubs. The safety of the airports and Metro system is a top priority for residents, visitors, customers, and employees of Northern Virginia. This collaboration would contribute to improving crime prevention and ridership confidence in the Metro and at the airports. Millions of domestic and international visitors use these transportation systems for civic, business, residential, and tourism activities that are central to Northern Virginia's communities. It is vital to the economic well-being of Northern Virginia that visitors, employees, and community members feel confident, safe, and satisfied when using Dulles International and Reagan National Airports. There remains little knowledge and evaluation of combined airport and public transit security measures to mitigate security risks at those locations. For these reasons, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Police Department (MWAA PD) has entered into a cooperative agreement with the WMATA Metro Transit Police Department (MTPD) to apply prevention measures at airport Metro stations to increase safety at both those stations and their connected airports. The MWAA PD has asked the CEBCP to help evaluate, assess, and improve these security measures using evidence-based approaches and knowledge. The CEBCP's evaluation would provide a critical service to Metro riders and customers of Dulles and Reagan National and the Washington Metro system by providing an analysis for MWAA PD to understand and assess the impacts of their work on public safety and ridership confidence in Northern Virginia. An evidence-based approach can also sharpen the cost-benefits of police activity by optimizing resource utilization.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Gerald E. Connolly Member of Congress

11th District, Virginia